



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

JOHN L. HULICK, MS, CPS
Executive Director

January 18, 2013

Dear Municipal Alliance Chairperson:

The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse is pleased to inform you of the first of two upcoming trainings to prepare your Municipal Alliance for the development of effective prevention programming for the upcoming 2014-2017 Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program grant cycle.

In preparation for the 2014-2017 cycle, the Council extended the last grant cycle by two years in order to provide extensive trainings. Through a contract with the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, the Council hosted the New Jersey Coalition Academy in regional sites throughout New Jersey from March 2011- October 2012. The Academy immersed Alliance stakeholders in the Strategic Prevention Framework, a best practice model for community problem solving, as well as environmental change strategies. The Academy established a strong foundation for the 2014-2017 grant cycle process now being embarked upon.

The upcoming trainings will serve to prepare Municipal Alliances to conduct a needs assessment process, build capacity, and plan activities that incorporate environmental change strategies into your local community drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs and activities. They will also provide Municipal Alliances an opportunity to further develop the necessary skills to fulfill and remain true to their statutory charge to be a "mechanism both for implementing policies to reduce alcoholism and drug abuse (and) support appropriate county and municipal-based alcohol and drug abuse education and public awareness activities" (NJSA 26:BB-7a).

The trainings listed below will outline the needs assessment process and capacity building efforts. They will also ensure consistent and effective planning efforts which will help to inform local, county and state government planning processes of needs found in communities throughout New Jersey. The second training will be provided at a later date to train the Municipal Alliances on the 2014-2017 grant cycle application process. A Municipal Alliance representative will be required to attend both trainings in order to be eligible for funding.

The Council has contracted with The Institute for Prevention, Barnabas Health Behavioral Health Network, to provide these valuable trainings. The Council is also working collaboratively with, and providing additional training to, the County Alliance Coordinators, County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors and County Alliance Steering Sub-Committee members to ensure each is informed and well-versed on the upcoming planning process.

A representative of each Municipal Alliance will be required to select and attend one of the following training dates/locations for the first training which, again, is focused on the needs assessment process and capacity building efforts:

February 26th: 5:30pm-8:30pm training: Morris County Public Safety Training Academy located at 500 West Hanover Avenue in Parsippany

February 28th: 5:30pm-8:30pm training: Cumberland County College- Luciano Conference Center located at 3322 College Drive in Vineland

March 6th: 5:30pm-8:30pm training: Barnabas Health Ambulatory Care Center located at 200 South Orange Avenue in Livingston

March 7th: 5:30pm-8:30pm training: The Atlantic Club located at 1904 Atlantic Avenue in Manasquan

Light refreshments will be available at 4:30pm at each location with trainings beginning promptly at 5:30pm.

A link for registration has been provided on the GCADA website at www.state.nj.us/treasury/gcada. Please register for the first training no later than February 15th. The Council looks forward to your attendance and participation in the upcoming planning process for the 2014-2017 grant cycle. Doing so will ensure the Municipal Alliances remain an integral part of effectuating local change in order to make communities across New Jersey healthy and safe.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Alfaro, MSW
Director, Prevention and Training

Cc: County Alliance Coordinator
County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Director
Municipal Alliance Coordinator